

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 02803 110534Z

21

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SCCT-01 /052 W
----- 117860

R 101431Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3552

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 2803

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT ET

SUBJECT: DISSIDENCE GROWS

REF: ADDIS 2623

1. USUALLY RELIABLE DIPLOMATIC SOURCE REPORTS THREE RECENT RAIDS BY GALLA DISSIDENTS LOYAL TO GALLA LEADER TADESSE BIRU. THE FIRST OCCURRED IN GINCHE NEAR AMBO (SEE PARA 12 REFTTEL), THE SECOND NEAR FITCHE ON THE GONDAR ROAD AND THE THIRD WAS A THEFT OF DYNAMITE AND EXPLODING CAPS FROM A QUARRY NEAR DEBRE BERHAN.

2. DIPLOMATIC SOURCE AND WELL-INFORMED AFAR LEADER BOTH REPORT DESTRUCTION OF HIGHWAY BRIDGE AT MAHAL MEDA IN MENZ. BRIDGE WAS REPORTEDLY BLOWN BY DISSIDENT SONS OF RAS BIRU.

3. BOTH SOURCES REPORT THAT BIRU BROTHERS HAVE JOINED DEJ. BERHANE MESKAL WOLDE-SELASSIE (WHO IS MARRIED TO THE NIECE OF ASRATE KASSA). THE AFAR SOURCE BELIEVES BERHANE IS NOW IN LASTA (WOLLO PROVINCE) AND IS GATHERING A SIZEABLE FORCE. DIPLOMATIC SOURCE UNDERSTANDS THAT BERHANE MESKAL'S AMHARA GROUP MAY BE PREPARING TO LINK WITH THOSE SUPPORTING TADESSE BIRU IN OPPOSING
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PAGE 02 ADDIS 02803 110534Z

THE PMAC.

HUMMEL

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